

Sec. 16.6. Any unencumbered and unexpended funds appropriated to the North Carolina Health Care Reform Commission shall revert to the General Fund.

Sec. 16.7. This Part becomes effective January 1, 1997.

PART XVII.-----WELFARE REFORM (Basnight; Martin of Guilford; Berry; Howard; Gray)

Sec. 17.1. (a) Section 47 of Chapter 24 of the 1993 Session Laws, Extra Session 1994, as continued and amended by Section 23.8B of Chapter 507 of the 1995 Session Laws, and as amended by Part XXIII, Section 23.1 of Chapter 542 of the 1995 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

"(a) There is created the Legislative Study Commission on Welfare Reform. The Commission shall consist of 12 members as follows:

- (1) ~~Six members of the House of Representatives~~ persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of ~~Representatives; and Representatives,~~ at least three of whom shall be members of the House; and
- (2) ~~Six Senators~~ persons appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the ~~Senate.~~ Senate, at least three of whom shall be members of the Senate.

(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one representative as cochair and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator as cochair.

(c) The Commission may study the following: ~~shall study the whole issue of the need for welfare reform in light of the current social crisis caused, in part, by the rapidly increasing incidence of violent crimes. This study shall include:~~

- ~~(1) A reexamination of the whole purpose of the welfare system and an identification of those disincentives to raising responsible, independent participants in society that are built into the system;~~
- ~~(2) An analysis of the federal welfare reform proposals and of other states' initiatives; and~~
- ~~(3) A compilation and detailed examination, including detailed fiscal analysis, of proposals to reform the welfare system.~~
- (1) The feasibility of having public assistance appropriations and expenditures based on program/performance goals that foster consolidation and collaboration across program and agency lines;
- (2) Consideration of what consequences will ensue if a program or agency fails to attain its benchmarks or goals, and how those consequences can be handled in a manner that does not penalize families;
- (3) The feasibility of allowing counties to administer their own public assistance programs rather than the program devised by the State, and what core services, if any, should be part of all programs;
- (4) The feasibility of using public assistance funds to purchase services through subcontracting grants or otherwise from private and public not-for-profit organizations best able to achieve designated program and performance benchmarks and goals.

In considering these issues, special attention shall be given to: